

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:: ) Group Art Unit: 1635  
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                      LUZ MONTESCLAROS et al. ) Examiner: RICHARD SCHNIZER, Ph.D.  
                      )  
Serial No.: 10/618,493 ) Confirmation Number: 5407  
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                      )  
Filed: July 11, 2003 )  
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For: **METHODS AND KITS FOR** )  
    **OBTAINING NUCLEIC ACID** )  
    **FROM BIOLOGICAL** )  
    **SAMPLES** )  
                      )  
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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants now respond to the Final Office Action mailed August 21, 2007, (the "Office Action"). No fee is due at this time. Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No. 01-2213 (Order No. **5063**).

**Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.**